

VOTE ON MOTION TO DISCHARGE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) is necessarily absent.

Mr. BLUNT. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN).

Further, if present and voting: the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) would have voted "nay."

The result was announced—yeas 49, nays 34, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 153 Ex.]

YEAS—49

Baldwin	Hickenlooper	Reed
Bennet	Hirono	Rosen
Blumenthal	Kaine	Sanders
Booker	Kelly	Schatz
Brown	King	Schumer
Cantwell	Klobuchar	Shaheen
Cardin	Leahy	Sinema
Carper	Lujan	Smith
Casey	Manchin	Stabenow
Coons	Markey	Van Hollen
Cortez Masto	Menendez	Warner
Duckworth	Merkley	Warnock
Durbin	Murphy	Warren
Feinstein	Murray	Whitehouse
Gillibrand	Ossoff	Wyden
Hassan	Padilla	
Heinrich	Peters	

NAYS—34

Blackburn	Fischer	Murkowski
Blunt	Graham	Rubio
Boozman	Grassley	Sasse
Capito	Hagerty	Scott (FL)
Cassidy	Hawley	Scott (SC)
Collins	Hoeven	Shelby
Cornyn	Hyde-Smith	Sullivan
Cotton	Johnson	Tuberville
Cramer	Kennedy	Wicker
Crapo	Lankford	Young
Cruz	Lee	
Ernst	McConnell	

NOT VOTING—17

Barrasso	Marshall	Rounds
Braun	Moran	Tester
Burr	Paul	Thune
Daines	Portman	Tillis
Inhofe	Risch	Toomey
Lummis	Romney	

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. WARNOCK). Pursuant to S. Res. 27 and the motion to discharge having been agreed to, the nomination will be placed on the Executive Calendar.

The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 57.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read nomination of Lisa O. Monaco, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 57, Lisa O. Monaco, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Attorney General.

Charles E. Schumer, Richard J. Durbin, Jeff Merkley, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Blumenthal, Jacky Rosen, Michael F. Bennet, Tammy Duckworth, Amy Klobuchar, Jon Ossoff, Chris Van Hollen, Martin Heinrich, Mark R. Warner, Patrick J. Leahy, Christopher A. Coons, Dianne Feinstein, Gary C. Peters, Kyrsten Sinema.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 34.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the nomination.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read the nomination of Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2026. (Reappointment)

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I send a cloture motion to the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented

under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the nomination of Executive Calendar No. 34, Gary Gensler, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission for a term expiring June 5, 2026. (Reappointment)

Charles E. Schumer, Patrick J. Leahy, Richard J. Durbin, Christopher A. Coons, Jeff Merkley, Debbie Stabenow, Richard Blumenthal, Jacky Rosen, Michael F. Bennet, Tammy Duckworth, Amy Klobuchar, Jon Ossoff, Chris Van Hollen, Martin Heinrich, Mark R. Warner, Dianne Feinstein, Gary C. Peters, Kyrsten Sinema.

Mr. SCHUMER. Finally, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the mandatory quorum calls for the cloture motions filed today, April 15, be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I move to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BAY OF PIGS OPERATION

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the 60th anniversary of the Bay of Pigs operation.

Today, we commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Bay of Pigs operation and pay tribute to the brave and courageous members of Brigada de Asalto 2506, Assault Brigade 2506. On April 17, 1961, a group of Cuban patriots landed at the Bay of Pigs to overthrow Fidel Castro's communist dictatorship. We remember the sacrifice made by these brave individuals, and their memory lives on in the fight that continues today.

There is no doubt that where we see instability, chaos, and violence in

Latin America, we also see the fingerprints of the Castro regime. The Cuban people have suffered decades of oppression under Castro's regime. So many courageous individuals have dedicated their lives to the freedom of Cuba, and their commitment and sacrifice have kept the hope of liberty alive.

It is time to show Castro that his era of influence in Latin America is over. The United States must always support those fighting for freedom and democracy, and I will never stop fighting to bring a new day of freedom to Cuba and all of Latin America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ANNE STORDAHL

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Anne Stordahl of Pondera County for her commitment to supporting Montana small businesses.

Anne has been a small business owner in Conrad, Montana for 15 years. When the local candy shop closed in her community, Anne decided to help boost community morale by taking on a new project and business. She opened the 2B Sweet Candy shop right next to her hair salon, giving her customers a chance to grab some candy while waiting for their next haircut.

Anne enlisted the help of her three children to open a new candy store that could bring some joy back to their community, especially in a time of uncertainty when many small businesses were closing their doors. Her son handled the behind the scenes work of taking inventory and balancing the books while her daughters handled a variety of tasks like designing candy bouquets and serving customers.

Anne grew up on a farm and was able to use this experience to teach her children what a strong Montana work ethic looks like and the importance of family operations to our communities. At the beginning, she hoped the store would bring her family closer, and looking back, she would say this was a sweet success.

It is my honor to recognize Anne and her children for taking the initiative to successfully launch the 2B Sweet Candy Shop. It is now a proud part of the Conrad community.●

REMEMBERING JIM PUTEK

• Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, on January 25, 2021, America lost a great patriot CPT James "Jim" Ronald Putek, 75, of Alpharetta, GA. Born in Chicago, IL, Jim was a decorated Army veteran having served in the Vietnam war, where he received the following awards: the National Defense Service Medal, the Bronze Star with one oakleaf Cluster, the Air Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with one Silver and one Bronze Service Star, the Army Aviator Badge, and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Captain Putek's heroism will live forever. Following his retirement from the Army, Jim continued his passion for aviation as a commercial airline pilot for Piedmont Airlines and US Airways.

Captain Putek is survived by his wife Tricia Putek, his sister Delores, his sister-in-law Mary, and his nieces and nephews Hank, Gwen, Joanne, Janet, and Jon. He was preceded in death by his parents Walter and Frances, and his brother Henry.

Jim Putek was a fine gentleman and a true hero, respected and revered by everyone who met him. When Captain Putek passed, we not only lost a good man, we lost a great American.●

TRIBUTE TO DOMINIC LAJOIE

• Mr. KING. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Dominic LaJoie of Van Buren, ME, who was recently named as National Potato Council, NPC, president for 2021. The National Potato Council is a grower-led organization managed by an Executive Committee and Board of Directors, which oversees its operations and provides guidance on its policy activities. It does not surprise me that Dominic LaJoie was chosen as the 2021 president to lead the council's Executive Committee because Dominic epitomizes the qualities that are needed to bring State potato grower organizations together at the national level. He has a proven history of promoting collaboration and respectful, healthy debate to further best practices and innovation in agriculture for years. Dominic has also served on the Maine Potato Board and has been a long standing and active participant of the National Potato Council in previous years including serving on the Trade Committee and as first vice president and vice president of the Environmental Affairs Committee.

But those are the only the highlights of one well-deserved appointment. What truly makes Dominic stand out is his heart for farming, for his family and for his community all while stepping up to serve in a national seat. Dominic and his family are fourth generation potato farmers. He is so humble and proud to work with his brother and nephew, along with the support of their wives and children, on the land that was farmed by their parents and their grandparents before them. Dominic's work ethic and character have shone through throughout his career as a farmer, but never one to just sit idle, their farm diversified and added grain and root vegetables, and they have worked to carve out new niche products in the natural snacks and health food markets. He is active in many civic activities and in his church, and when given a chance to speak of his wife and four children, his already genuine and wide smile broadens even further with an acknowledgment of his blessings.

I was pleased to tour their farm in Van Buren a couple of years ago and

learned directly about their farm: the innovations and value added products; their focus on precision farming and efficiencies to enhance the productivity of their legacy farm and stewardship of the land they grew up on. Upon one of Dominic's awards received in recent years, he was asked if he had advice to those who are considering taking up farming, and he replied "Never give up, be open-minded and embrace change, take chances." It was immediately clear to me that Dominic's successes through attention to detail, sound business practices, and a true commitment to the future of agriculture was what brought him to be nominated and appointed as president of the National Potato Council for 2021.

I would like to recognize and thank Dominic for his ongoing commitment to upholding the legacy of potato growers in our State and this country. I cannot speak highly enough of Dominic and look forward to his service as the president of the National Potato Council Executive Committee.●

RECOGNIZING HUNTER'S BAR-B-Q

• Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I will recognize an outstanding Kentucky small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize a family-owned small business and southern Kentucky staple, Hunter's Bar-B-Q of Albany, KY, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

On Hunter Shearer's 13th birthday, when other boys wanted skateboards or baseball gloves, Shearer asked for a new Weber gas grill. From that point on, he was cooking for family and friends every chance he could. As a welder, Shearer built his own mobile grill and smoker, which he used to cook at family and church events. He first sold barbeque to the public in 2009, at the 127 Yard Sale. Seeing a business opportunity, Shearer decided to pursue his boyhood dream of owning a restaurant. In 2012, Hunter began working with his father-in-law Mike Duvall to convert an old service station into a restaurant. Sixteen months later, Hunter's Bar-B-Q welcomed its first customers in 2014.

In 2021, Hunter's Bar-B-Q continues to serve up some of the best BBQ in southern Kentucky, and folks drive from all over the State to enjoy their signature hickory smoked meat and family-friendly hospitality. Hunter's care and attention to detail are evident in every aspect of his restaurant and catering business. At the restaurant, everything is made from scratch, from handmade picnic tables and cooking equipment to the smoke shack, pits, and charcoal makers. Even the charcoal is made on site, using hickory wood from local sawmills.

Locally, Hunter's Bar-B-Q is known as "the place with the big flag." It